The Southern PATRIOT

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TRENDS

"Russia Has A 'Civil Rights' Plank" is the heading of an advertisement of the "States' Rights Democrats" appearing in the New Orleans States. **"Only Russia Can Finally Benefit by Race and Class Hatreds in the United States. The Philadelphia Platforms of Truman — Dewey — and Wallace Play Russia's Game"**, asserts the advertisement which claims that **"Only Local Home Rule and States' Rights Democrats Can Keep America Free".**

Leader of the States' Rights Democratics in Louisiana is John U. Barr, prominent New Orleans industrialist, who circulated a leaflet on the streets of New Orleans (see February Patriot for full text) which began:

> **"In 1944 genuine Democrats made the first serious move to eliminate from the real Democratic Party the alleged Negro-LOVING, pink and red MONGRELS who FALSELY called themselves Democrats—True, we were whipped and humiliated and on election day 1944 real Democrats found themselves with no place to go . . .**

The leaflet ended with an appeal for a "Democratic convention below the Mason-Dixon line."

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New Orleans Firemen's wages would be raised and their hours shortened from 72 to 60 per week by two bills passed at the 1948 legislature. The City attorney's office ruled the bills illegal, violating the city civil service law.

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In Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana and Oklahoma, "perhaps more substantial industrial expansion has taken place . . . than in any other part of the country," states **The Index,** published by the New York Trust Co., in an article entitled, "The Great Southwest." Total income payments of the region in 1945 showed a gain of 142.2 per cent over 1939, in contrast to the average gain of 116.3 per cent for the Nation.

Distinguished Southerners Present Two Sides of Civil Rights Issue

J. Strom Thurmond, Governor of South Carolina, told the Birmingham convention of Dixiecrats: **"There are not enough troops in the army to force the South to give up segration and admit the Negro race into our schools, our theatres, our swimming pools and our homes."**

That is an interesting statement by an official pledged to uphold the laws and institutions of the United States. Let us imagine that the United States Supreme Court rules that segregation in schools is a violation of the constitution. Does the distinguished Governor mean that in such a situation he would condone the use of violence in resisting the ruling of the highest court of the land?

Recently a number of distinguished writers and motion picture directors were cited for "contempt" of Congress because they refused to answer questions concerning their private political beliefs. Yet here is the chief executive of South Carolina who holds in "contempt" fifteen million fellow Americans and our entire system of democratic rule.

On almost the same day that the Governor made this pessimistic estimate of the low state of democratic sentiment in the South, something happened in his own state which raises serious doubts as to the Governor's reliability as a pollster of public opinion.

David Brown had come into federal court in Charleston complaining that Beaufort County and the State Democratic Party officials were refusing to register Negroes, in spite of a ruling in 1947 giving Negroes the right to vote in Democratic primaries.

Judge J. Waties Waring, of the U. S. District Court, had made that ruling. In a historic decision he said: **"It is time for South Carolina to rejoin the union. It is time to fall in step with the other states and to adopt the American way of conducting elections."**

Now in this second test Judge Waring said: **"It is a shame when you must come into a court and ask a judge to tell you that you are an American."**

The judge ordered the counties to reopen their books to enable Negroes to register. In words that showed no trace of prejudice or regional intolerance, this life-long resident of Charleston spelled out the doom of one form of segregation, segregation at the ballot box. Said Judge Waring: "The time has come when racial discrimination in the government of South Carolina must come to an end. American citizens must be treated with equality when electing their presidents, senators, etc. Any disobedience of the letter and spirit of this ruling will result in contempt proceedings. The parties responsible for any violation will be punished by imprisonment."

State Senator William P. Baskin, defendant and chairman of the executive committee of the Democratic Party of the state said the ruling would be fully complied with.

Judge J. Waties Waring

LETTERS

Dr. Luther P. Jackson, of Virginia State College, Board member of the Southern Conference Educational Fund, sends us a full page spread of pictures from the **Richmond Times-Dispatch** of the newly elected nine-man City Council, and their families. Included is Oliver W. Hill, Negro attorney who missed election a few months ago to the state legislature by less than 200 votes.

A note from Dr. Jackson states: "Oliver W. Hill was elected to the City Council of Richmond. With 29 candidate in the field and nine to be elected, he landed ninth. There has been great rejoicing since, among all Negroes and many whites. It is reported that 40 per cent of his votes came from white voters."

To the Editor:

I especially liked your article "Opinion Poll Reveals Democratic Trend" in May of this year.

PAUL V. GALLOWAY
Pastor, Central Methodist Church
Fayetteville, Ark.

Alabama College President Defends Civil Rights For All

The "free and secret ballot" for all is a minimum and maximum requirement of democracy, said W. Patric Donnelly, President of Spring Hill College, Mobile, Alabama, addressing the graduating class.

"Let us look at what has been called the unfinished business in democracy in the southland," he said. "The focal point of political discussion in the south today is the question of civil rights. From what I can gather, a great clamor is being made against the extension of civil rights to Negro citizens in the south, mainly by the politicians and the press.

"It seems to me they are answered by a conspiracy of silence. Is there nothing to be said on the other side—and by southerners? Democracy, I tell you is sick when only one side of a question is aired; it is dead when rights claimed by one citizen are denied to another."

"Colleges and universities that have been charged with leadership in a democratic society will accept leadership and become vocal. And so I ask: What do we hear officially on this question from the citadels of democracy— our great state universities from Virginia to Texas? What can we learn from our centers of learning—all the scores of colleges and universities of the south engaged in the training of thinkers? What do they think? Let the protagonists of academic freedom speak out on freedom. So far I hear only silence."

"States rights? By all means let us insist on state rights against the encroachment of the federal government, but by no means may we use states rights as a screen for denying human rights. States rights have, as I observe, sometimes been parleyed into states wrongs."

"This is at once the sword and shield of human rights. The free and secret ballot — unencumbered and unrestricted by poll tax or any other anti-democratic device—the ballot freely granted and intelligently used by all citizens—and I mean all citizens—is both the maximum and minimum requirement of democracy.

Klan Cleavage

Klaverns of the Ku Klux Klan at Manchester and Columbus, Ga., seceded from the parent group to form "The Original Southern Klans, Inc." Grand Dragon Samuel Green termed their departure an act by "Bolshevik Klans which pulled out because they couldn't run things themselves." A charter was granted the new group at Columbus in the name of Alton E. Pate, a 23-year-old veteran described by Green as the "front man" for "Parson Jack Johnson and a Columbus businessman."

The aims of the new Klan Pate listed as:

Defense of Protestant Americanism, opposition to the "blending of the white race with others, maintenance of white supremacy in the South, prevention of political dominance over "any inferior minority group." and opposition to the teachings of the Communist party "which embody advocacy of sexual equality under the guise of social equality."

"MUST BE A MISPRINT!"
KKK
ATLANTIC CHARTER
AUGUST 14 1941
"that ALL men may live out their lives in freedom from fear and want"
HATE THE
Stan Mac Govern

Courtesy Institute for American Democracy, Inc.

TRENDS

" . . . The resort is typical of free America in the sense that it is a place where Americans may amuse themselves without restriction", stated Congressman Hebert of Louisiana, speaking at the dedication of a $350,000 beach extention to Pontchartrain Beach, climaxing a 20-year development at a cost of more than $15,000,000.

One "restriction" at the Beach, overlooked by the Louisiana Represenative is "for white only". Or does the Representative exclude Negroes for the term "Americans"? In theory at least a United States Congressman represents all of the citizens of his District.

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A suit to compel the Commonwealth of Virginia to allow colored people either full use of its existing public park system or to provide "similar and equal" facilities" had been field in the Federal District Court at Richmond by Conrad Martin of Danville. Named as defendants were the Division of Parks of the Department of Conservation and Development, and Randolph Odell, Commissioner of Parks.

Racial and religious discrimination in institutions of higher learning will be outlawed in New York state by a law which goes into effect Sept. 15. Religious or denominational institutions will have the right to operate "exclusively or primarily for students of their own religious faith," but they too will be compelled to refrain from discriminating because of race, color, or national origin. Setting up a schedule of "unfair" educational practices based on acts of discrimination, the bill empowers the State Educational Commissioner and the State Board of Regents to compel the abatement of such practices, first by "persuasion, conciliation, or mediation," then by the issuance of "cease and desist" orders, and finally by court order, reviewable by the Appellate Division.

International Harvester of Memphis and the **Ford** plant at Atlanta have stated that ability not race or color will determine employment; there will be no discrimination and men will be used to their fullest capacities with regard to skills."

Negro and Latin-American voters of San Antonio combined their votes to elect G. J. Sutton, a Negro, to the Board of the all-white San Antonio Junior College, and Gus Garcia, attorney, to the district school board. This is the first time either board has had a Negro or Latin-American member.

Liberal decisions were made and constitutional guarantees were extended by the last session of the United States Supreme Court in eight out of nine cases involving race and group relations, according to an analysis by the commission on law and social action of the American Congress. The cases involved exclusion of Negroes from a Mississippi jury; the anti-Japanese California Land law; a Michigan steamship company which denied access to a Negro; religious instruction in schools during "released time"; two restrictive covenants in housing barring Negroes; the California statute denying commercial licenses to aliens ineligible to citizenship; and the two Oklahoma Law School cases involving a segregated school. Only in the second of those Oklahoma cases, said the report, in Fisher **vs.** Hurst, in which the court declined to rule that as a matter of law segregation was tantamount to discrimination, did the protection of civil rights for minorities receive a set back.

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"One of the things that has kept our higher institutions at third-rate is the necessity for duplicating the educational system from the kindergarten to post-graduate level." Will W. Alexander, speaking at the dedication of "Rosenwald Hall" at Dillard University, New Orleans.

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The Southern Governors' plan for segregated, regional, graduate schools for Negroes met a setback on May 13. By a vote of 38 to 37 the Senate sent the resolution for ratification back to the Judiciary Committee thus killing the proposal in the 80th Congress. The House had previously passed the resolution.

Segregation in housing took a beating in the Supreme Court on May 3. In a unanimous decision the Court held that restrictive covenants were a violation of the 14th Amendment and could not be enforced in the courts. "Whatever else the framers (of the 14th Amendment) sought to achieve," the decision stated, "it is clear that the matter of primary concern was the establishment of equality in the enjoyment of basic civil and political rights and the preservation of those rights from discriminatory action on the part of the states based on race or color . . . we have concluded in these cases the states have acted to deny petitioners the equal protection of the laws guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment."

Fraternities Under Attack

Carey McWilliams, in the May issue of **Commentary** asserts that fraternities by imposing social conformity and controlling economic and professional opportunities—subvert the real ends of a free educational system. But a "new wind is blowing on American campuses," writes Mr. McWilliams. "It is directed against the policy of fraternities of systematic exclusion of certain ethnic groups". He offers examples of this new liberal trend from the campuses of Santa Barbara College and the State Universities of Minnesota, Wyoming, Washington and Arizona State Teachers College.

Another step in the liberal direction is described in the January issue of **Motive,** Methodist Youth magazine. It tells of the founding at Baldwin-Wallace College, Berea, Ohio, of Sigma, Sigma Epsilon.

Motive states "this Greek-leter fraternity has faced the problem of "exclusiveness" with a faith in democracy and the inherent dignity and fellowship of man". The fraternity was established "on the principle that fellowship should be denied no man because of the color of his skin, the god he worships, or the size of his bank account." A two-thirds vote is required for membership—no one man can "black-ball" a candidate.

But Mr. McWilliams takes a pessimistic attitude. "In the long run", he writes, "the fraternity system seems likely to disoppear—and no one concerned with the fulfillment of the democratic promise is likely to regret its passing."

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Negro parents, having failed to secure relief in two years of patient negotiation, on June 2 filed suit against the Orleans and Iberville Parish School boards to remove discrimination and inequalities in public school facilities. The areas in which inequalities are said to exist are: kindergarten classes, vocational curricula, visiting teachers, gymnasia, teacher load, high school academic curricula, buildings, expenditures, business education and adult education.

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